

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-10 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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MEXICO FOR ROSALES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB VE

SUBJECT: ORIT SECRETARY GENERAL FAILS TO HEAL RIFF WITH CTV

REF CARACAS 8601, BRUSSELS 7501

1. ORIT SECRETARY GENERAL JULIO ECHEVERRY SPENT FRIDAY, AUG 22 IN CARACAS BUT FAILED TO SEE ANY OF THE TOP LEADERSHIP OF THE CTV (CONFEDERATION OF VENEZUELAN WORKERS). ECHEVERRY TOLD THE LABOR ATTACHE THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT BY TELEPHONE WITH THE CTV LEADERSHIP, ALTHOUGH CTV PRESIDENT ROSE VARGAS

DID APPARENTLY MAKE AT LEAST ONE ATTEMPT TO RETURN ECHEVERRY'S CALLS. BY ABOUT 4 P.M. ECHEVERRY GAVE UP HIS TELEPHONE ATTEMPTS TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT AND WENT TO CTV HEADQUARTERS IN PERSON, BUT THE CTV LEADERSHIP HAD ALREADY DEPARTED FOR THE CONGRESS (ALL MEMBERS OF THE TOP LEADERSHIP OF THE CTV ARE DEPUTIES OR SENATORS). THUS ECHEVERRY LEFT CARACAS WITHOUT HAVING HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEMPT TO TALK OUT HIS DIFFERENCES WITH THE CTV LEADERSHIP.

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2. COMMENT: GIVEN ECHEVERRY'S WEAK POSITION WITH THE CTV (WHICH HE WAS INFORMED OF ON ARRIVAL BY AIFLD CPD HAMMER), IT MIGHT HAVE

BEEN WISER FOR HIM TO HAVE PERSONALLY GONE TO CTV HEADQUARTERS IN THE MORNING RATHER THAN WAITING UNTIL MID-AFTERNOON, PARTICULARLY GIVEN THE INFORMAL WAY VENEZUELAN'S CONDUCT BUSINESS. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE LEADERS OF THE CTV SHOWED LITTLE INTEREST IN RECONCILIATION AND MADE LITTLE OR NO EFFORT TO COMMUNICATE WITH ECHEVERRY WHO HAD MADE A SPECIAL TRIP TO CARACAS TO SEE THEM.

3. NOTE: THERE APPEARS TO STILL BE SOME CONFUSION ABOUT THE MULTI-PARTY LEADERSHIP OF THE CTV. THE ONLY THREE PERSONS WHO SPEAK WITH AUTHORITY FOR THE CTV IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS ARE AUGUSTO MALAVE VILLALBA, JOSE VARGAS, AND MANUEL PENALVER. OTHER LEADERS OF DIVERSE POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS WILL FREQUENTLY SPEAK IN THE NAME OF THE CTV, BUT THEY LACK THE CLOUT ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO GAIN MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR THEIR VIEWS.
SHLAUDEMAM

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